

HRIC
Executive Committee
1/16/06

Participants: Rick Palmisano, Jerry Brown, Fran Voigt, Pat McDonald, Tim Donovan, Chip Evans, Mike Quinn

1) Meeting with the Governor - Members reported that the Governor is supportive of our direction with the business community and our policies, and that he would like to see close coordination and alignment with economic development. There was disagreement that needs to be resolved about H-109 (which re-authorizes the Council in State legislation) regarding the role of the Council Chair in appointing the Executive Director.

2) February Council Meeting - It was agreed to postpone this event until the new strategic plan is finalized.

3) Discussion of Mission and Strategic Objectives - Rick initiated the conversation asking how we can maximize our effectiveness in working with the public partners, and meeting the needs of employers? He suggested that the Council should be the integrator between educators/agencies and employers on workforce development issues in alignment with the State's economic development strategies. There was general discussion in which the following perspectives were shared:

- We need to build on our work over the past year with leading employers and employer groups to develop an action plan.
- If we were starting from scratch how would we structure our work?
- We need to get the necessary resources and services to the consumers, businesses and individuals.
- We need to look at the WIB model and funding streams. Why do some work very effectively and others less so?
- We need to start with the assumption that we will meet the Fed's expectations, which is essential, then, what more can we do to meet the State's workforce needs to ensure our economic future.
- We have the Governor's interest in seeing these efforts succeed, and the Council needs to be an aggregator of needs to reach economy of scale in delivering services
- We need a vision for getting beyond the silos, and, remembering that we have had success in reforming the silos, such as tech ed, we need to succeed on a bigger scale.
- The role and power of the HRIC is important to consider. An "advisory" role will not attract the attention of business leaders.
- Educators need to value getting workers and employers what they need.
- Having the right workers is critical to growing entrepreneurial and emerging firms, and these are essential to the State's economic future.

Next Steps:

Pat and Mike Quinn will develop a brief statement of the role the State WIB needs to play and the strategic objectives for the Council for discussion at the Feb. 13 meeting.